

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, December 22, 1987

9:30 a.m. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, December 22, 1987, with Commissioners Walberg, Vaux and Rohrer present.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

1. The following persons were present for a discussion with the Skagit County Humane Society regarding enforcement of the County's Dangerous Dog Ordinance: Sandy Nelson, Humane Society Shelter Manager; John Brand, Humane Society Animal Control Officer; Larry Talbott, Skagit County Sheriff's Deputy; Roger Howard, Skagit County Facilities Manager; and Mike Woodmansee, Skagit County Budget and Finance Director.

Mr. Woodmansee informed the Board that a number of items needed further clarification regarding the Humane Society's proposed enforcement of the County's Dangerous Dog Ordinance, specifically with regard to the proposed contract between Skagit County and the Humane Society for these services, and the possible enforcement of the ordinance prior to the County's construction of additional kennels to house the impounded dogs.

Ms. Nelson explained the shelter is currently 80 to 90 percent full. The facility is able to house approximately 60 adult dogs, but not ideally. Also, when spring arrives, Ms. Nelson explained there will be no room within the existing facility to house impounded dangerous dogs.

Mr. Woodmansee suggested possibly private kennels could house impounded dangerous dogs until the County could build an additional facility.

Ms. Nelson felt at this time the existing facility could house three impounded dangerous dogs, however, when spring arrives, there will be no room. She also urged the Board to begin enforcement of the County's ordinance January 1, 1988.

Mr. Talbott asked what liability the County may incur for having an ordinance which is not enforced.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Talbott noted that the Sheriff's Office is currently taking calls regarding dangerous dogs ranging from growling dogs to dogs eating other domestic animals to dog bites. At the present time the Sheriff's Office is telling people to secure their dogs and hoping they do so. The file containing these calls currently consists of 30 to 50 incidents.

Ms. Nelson explained she has had many calls regarding dangerous dogs. She felt the public is informed about the ordinance to the extent they are expecting it to be enforced.

Mr. Talbott estimated five or six of the cases the Sheriff's Office has documented are probably dangerous dogs.

Commissioner Vaux felt the County should proceed with enforcement of the ordinance.

Mike Woodmansee stated he would schedule signing of the contract with the Humane Society on the Commissioners' agenda for next week.

Discussion followed regarding radios versus mobile telephone communication for the Animal Control Officer. Additional investigation into this matter will follow.

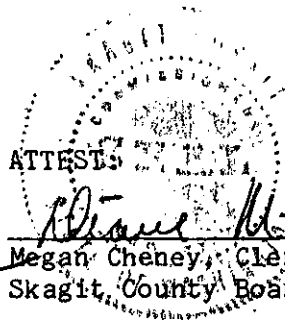
Commissioners Walberg and Vaux were present for the following item. Commissioner Rohrer's absence was excused.

2. Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by R.C.W. 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by R.C.W. 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the Board.

As of this date, December 22, 1987, the Board, by a majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above-mentioned list and further described as follows: Warrant #29489 in the total amount of \$226,000. (C-52-87)

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Vaux motioned to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried and so ordered.



ATTEST:

*Megan Cheney*  
Megan Cheney, Clerk of the  
Skagit County Board of Commissioners

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

*Otto M. Walberg, Jr.*  
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Otto M. Walberg, Jr., Chairman

*W. W. Vaux*  
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W. W. Vaux, Commissioner

*Dave Rohrer*  
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Dave Rohrer, Commissioner